

inconsistencies. that it offers to us. at any moment. the exciting surprises of a dramatic entertainment. It is not only that cruelty and kindness. selfishness and self-denial, strength and weakness. distinguish different members of the same community : the same person may unaccountably display these opposite qualities at different moments of our acquaintanceship. For what diversity of purposes does man use his tongue ! " Therewith bless we God. even the Father ; and therewith curse we men. which are made after the similitude of God. "

By the variety as well as by the complexity of his nature man is separated from the brutes by a gulf that appears to be unbridgeable. Yet, if we accept the doctrine of evolution. we must believe that man has crossed this gulf to win the privileges of his position. and owes his form. his talents. and his aspirations to a gradual development out of brutish conditions. The roots of the excellencies upon which we pride ourselves must stretch down the length of the animal kingdom, must, indeed, be traceable—were we able to trace them—no farther merely in what are generally called the lower animals. ⁵¹ but in the minute animalcules which flit across the field of the microscope. For, unless the germs of our qualities exist in the lowest forms of life. we must have been endowed with them, at one stage or another. by acts of special creation,

and for such interpositions of
Providence the
doctrine of evolution has no place. May
we not.
then, reject a theory which strains our
powers of
belief so harshly ? Only if we can close
our ears
against a cloud of witnesses. Geology
testifies
that the forms of animal and vegetable
life change
and become simpler and simpler with
the increas-